

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NATO 03278 140320Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07
L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02
USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /065 W
-----141221Z 122019 /40
R 131942Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 03278

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, PFOR
SUBJECT: ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS

SUMMARY: WE BELIEVE NATO SHOULD MOVE AHEAD SMARTLY WITH
THE EAST-WEST STUDY PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE NATO
SUMMIT, AND SUGGEST IN THIS MESSAGE A SCENARIO FOR EARLY
COUNCIL ACTION. END SUMMARY.

1. WE BELIEVE THE US SHOULD OUTLINE PROMPTLY TO THE NAC
VIEWS ON HOW TO PROCEED WITH THE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELA-
TIONS PROPOSED BY THE PRESIDENT AND ENDORSED BY THE ALLIES
AT THE LONDON SUMMIT. WHILE THE STUDY IS ENVISAGED AS A
PROJECT EXTENDING OVER THE NEXT YEAR, AN EARLY INDICATION
OF US THINKING ON PROCEDURES WOULD BE USEFUL TO FORESTALL
UNHELPFUL INITIATIVES BY OTHERS AND TO PUT THE PROJECT ON
THE RIGHT TRACK BEFORE THE SUMMER HIATUS IN ACTIVITIES AT
NATO HEADQUARTERS.

2. WE SUGGEST THE FOLLOWING APPROACH, WHICH SHOULD BE
REVIEWED WITH SYG LUNS, AND THEN ADVANCED AT A PERMREPS
LUNCH, TO PREPARE THE WAY FOR DISCUSSION AT AN EARLY
COUNCIL MEETING:

--TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR). WE BELIEVE THE TOR APPROVED BY
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THE NAC SHOULD BE BRIEF, AND COULD EMBRACE THE OUTLINE
USED BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE SUMMIT: THE
STUDY SHOULD "ASSESS FUTURE TRENDS IN THE
SOVIET UNION, IN EASTERN EUROPE AND IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS,
AND ANALYZE THE IMPLICATIONS OF THESE TRENDS FOR THE
ALLIANCE". A MORE DETAILED OUTLINE COULD BE DEVELOPED
LATER, BUT WE WOULD HOPE TO AVOID A LENGTHY COUNCIL DIS-

CUSSION, AND POSSIBLE DISAGREEMENTS AT THE OUTSET,
REGARDING TERMS OF REFERENCE.

--DRAFTING. WE BELIEVE THE COUNCIL SHOULD CHARGE THE
SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC) WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR
DRAFTING THE REPORT. THE SPC COULD CALL ON THE ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE LATTER'S AREA OF EXPERTISE.

--CONTRIBUTIONS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT INITIAL CONTRI-
BUTIONS BE PROVIDED BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS, AND THAT WE
REITERATE, AS THE PRESIDENT STATED, THE US IS
PREPARED TO MAKE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION. THE INTERNATIONAL
STAFF, IN COOPERATION WITH THE SPC, WOULD MELD NATIONAL
CONTRIBUTIONS INTO AN INITIAL DRAFT.

--PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT, AT
APPROPRIATE STAGES IN THE DISCUSSION/DRAFTING PROCESS,
SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE SPC OR COUNCIL MIGHT BE HELD WITH
THE PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS. SOME ALLIES
MAY EXPRESS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-
GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS IN THE STUDY. HOWEVER, WE WOULD SUG-
GEST HOLDING OPEN THIS POSSIBILITY, BY INDICATING
THAT EACH ALLY WOULD BE FREE TO SELECT ITS OWN EXPERTS,
WHO WOULD HAVE APPROPRIATE CLEARANCES FOR PARTICIPATING
IN NATO WORK.

--RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ALLIED STUDIES OF EAST-WEST
ISSUES. QUESTIONS MAY BE RAISED ABOUT POSSIBLE ASSOCIATION
WITH THE STUDY OF ALLIED EXPERTS ON EASTERN EUROPE,WHO
MEET AT NATO HEADQUARTERS IN THE SPRING AND FALL TO PRE-
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PARE ONE OF THE REGULAR SERIES OF REGIONAL EXPERTS
REPORTS, OR OF THE ATLANTIC POLICY ADVISORY GROUP (APAG),
WHICH MEETS ANNUALLY. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT THESE BODIES
REMAIN SEPARATE -- EVEN THOUGH INDIVIDUAL ALLIES MAY WISH
THE SAME PERSONNEL THAT TAKE PART IN APAG OR REGULAR
EXPERTS MEETINGS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COUNCIL'S
EAST-WEST STUDY.

--NAC CONSULTATIONS. AS SUGGESTED ABOVE, NAC COULD REVIEW
THE DRAFT AT VARIOUS STAGES, LEAVING OPEN THE
POSSIBILITY OF EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS PARTICIPATING IN
SUCH CONSULTATIONS. MOREOVER, THE FINAL DRAFT SHOULD BE
CAREFULLY ADDRESSED BY THE NAC, WITH EXPERTS PRESENT IF
NEEDED.

--COMPLETION DATE. WE WOULD PLAN TO PRESS FOR AGREEMENT
TO COMPLETE THE REPORT FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE MAY
1978 SUMMIT COUNCIL MEETING, AS THE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED.

--PUBLICATION. QUESTIONS MAY ARISE ABOUT WHETHER THE REPORT

SHOULD BE MADE PUBLIC, A MOVE SOME ALLIES WOULD LIKELY RESIST. WE WOULD SUGGEST DEFERING A DECISION, MAINTAINING THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE DRAFTS, AND PERHAPS SUGGESTING AT SOME STAGE PREPARATION OF AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EARLY GUIDANCE, INCLUDING A TENTATIVE DATE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE US CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIRST DRAFT. BENNETT

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R 161436Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3625
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 03278

MADRID FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY FOR VEST

FOL TEL REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO SENT SECSTATE AS NATO 3278

QUOTE
R 131942Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3612

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO03278
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770559/aaaabyez.tel
Line Count: 254
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 7c4bd593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2524438
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLIANCE STUDY OF EAST-WEST RELATIONS
TAGS: NATO
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c4bd593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009